GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:795
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2001
RAILWAY TRACKS OWNED BY PRIVATE FOREIGN COMPANIES
UTTAMRAO DEORAO PATIL

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway lines/ tracks which are owned or in possession of private or foreign companies in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to nationalise these railway lines?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) The following railway lines are owned by Private Companies (1) (a) Murtizapur −Yavatmal (b) Murtizapur − Achalpur (c) Pulgaon − Arvi being run in the state of Maharashtra and (2) The Ahmedpur Katwa which is being run in the state of West Bengal.

(b) These lines are being operated by Indian Railways in terms of agreements entered intowith the owning companies. The question of nationalisation of these lines by the Central Government is regulated in terms of an Agreement entered into with the owning company, which provides for a review after every ten years. The last such review was made in the year 1996 in the case of The Central Provinces Railway Company Ltd. and1998 in the case of Ahmedpur Katwa Railway Company Ltd. when it was decided on financial considerations not to purchase the lines but to continue the existing arrangement as the same would have entailed heavy capital investment on upgradation and proper integration of these unremunerative lines with the main Indian Railway system. The next review is due in the year 2006 in the case of the Central Provinces Railway CompanyLtd. and in the year 2008 in the case of Ahmedpur Katwa Railway Company Ltd.